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July 2, 2004

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Art Unit 1653

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Application No. 09/903,864; Filed: July 13, 2001

Methods and Compositions for Rapid Protein and Peptide Extraction

and Isolation Using a Lysis Matrix

Inventors:

Blakesley et al.

Our Ref:

0942.5050002/RWE/ALS

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

- 1. Fee Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/17);
- 2. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
- 3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111;
- 4. Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 for \$1,072.00 to cover:

\$950.00 Extension for response within third month;

36.00 Claims in excess of twenty; and

86.00 Independent claims in excess of three; and

5. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC.: 1100 New York Avenue, NW: Washington, DC 20005: 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540: www.skqf.com

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Aaron L. Schwaftz
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 48,181

ALS/dab 283931_1.DOC Enclosures

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